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Programme planning

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017

Part two: biennial programme plan

Programme 3
Disarmament

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* A/69/50.

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Overall orientation

3.1 General and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control remains the ultimate goal of all efforts exerted in the field of disarmament. The main responsibilities for disarmament lie with Member States. The United Nations, in accordance with its Charter, has a central role and primary responsibility in supporting Member States in this area.

3.2 The mandate for the programme is derived from the priorities established in relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions in the field of disarmament, including the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament (resolution S-10/2). The programme is also guided by the United Nations Millennium Declaration (resolution 55/2). Weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, continue to be of primary concern to the Organization owing to their destructive power and the threat that they pose to humanity. Conventional weapons, small arms, light weapons, landmines and cluster munitions have received increased attention from the international community.

3.3 Within the Secretariat, substantive responsibility for the programme is vested in the Office for Disarmament Affairs. The strategy of the Office in meeting the programme's objectives is designed around five subprogrammes and is based on its role in and responsibility for facilitating and encouraging, as appropriate, measures aimed at disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects and at all levels. The Office will continue to assist Member States in promoting, strengthening and consolidating multilaterally negotiated principles and norms in all areas of disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects. It will support efforts of Member States in the areas of disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects in order to promote international peace and security and contribute to global efforts against terrorism. The Office will enhance its capacity for more in-depth analysis, keeping track of developments in those areas, and provide Member States with timely and practical advice, as requested. It will continue to assist Member States in their efforts towards international regulation of the arms trade and prevention of the illicit manufacture of and trafficking in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.

3.4 The Office will assist States in increasing understanding of the relationship between disarmament and development. It will promote transparency, based on the principle of undiminished and increased security for all, and confidence-building measures in the field of disarmament. Through its regional centres for peace and disarmament, the Office will assist Member States in promoting regional approaches to disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects and regional and international peace and security.

3.5 The Office will seek to achieve the objectives of the programme by facilitating the process of multilateral deliberation and negotiation. This will include providing substantive organizational support to the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and other subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly, the Conference on Disarmament and its subsidiary bodies, review conferences and other meetings of parties to multilateral disarmament agreements, as well as to expert groups mandated by the General Assembly.

3.6 The Office will continue to be a source of impartial and factual information on disarmament and security-related matters for Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations and will expand its educational outreach programmes. Training and advisory services will continue to be provided, through the United Nations Disarmament Fellowship, Training and Advisory Services Programme and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, to Member States, in particular developing countries, to enable them to enhance their expertise in disarmament so that they can participate more effectively in international deliberating and negotiating forums.

3.7 The continued implementation of a gender plan of action aimed at raising awareness of gender mainstreaming in disarmament affairs will continue to be an integral part of the activities of the programme.

Subprogramme 1
Multilateral negotiations on arms limitation and disarmament

Objective of the Organization: To support multilateral negotiations and deliberations on agreements on disarmament, arms limitation and non-proliferation in all its aspects and to provide support as required by States parties to the existing multilateral agreements in those areas

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Effective support to negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament and in conferences and meetings of States parties to various multilateral agreements on disarmament, arms limitation and non-proliferation in all its aspects at the organizational, procedural and substantive levels	(a) (i) Increased acknowledgment by presidents and chairs of subsidiary bodies and by Member and observer States of the Conference on Disarmament of the effectiveness of substantive and procedural support and the efficiency of organizational services (ii) Increased acknowledgment by chairs of conferences and meetings of States parties, as well as individual States parties and other participants, of the effectiveness of substantive and procedural support and the efficiency of organizational services
(b) Effective support for the timely implementation of decisions, recommendations and programmes of action adopted by conferences and meetings of States parties to various multilateral disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation agreements	(b) (i) Increased reporting by States parties on their steps to implement treaty obligations, decisions, recommendations and programmes of action, as required (ii) Increased provision of information by States parties for populating the databases mandated under multilateral disarmament agreements

		(iii) The number of visits to and page views of the website of the Conference Support Branch at the United Nations Office at Geneva
(c) Enhanced expertise of Member States in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, including through the United Nations Disarmament Fellowship, Training and Advisory Services Programme, as well as improved gender balance of Programme participants	(c)	(i) Increased percentage of Member States, in particular developing countries, interested in the United Nations Disarmament Fellowship, Training and Advisory Services Programme (ii) Increased number of alumni of the United Nations Disarmament Fellowship, Training and Advisory Services Programme in the United Nations bodies, meetings and conferences dealing with disarmament and non-proliferation (iii) Increased percentage of female participants in the United Nations Disarmament Fellowship, Training and Advisory Services Programme

Strategy

3.8 The subprogramme is implemented by the Conference on Disarmament Secretariat and Conference Support Branch at the United Nations Office at Geneva. The objective of the subprogramme will be pursued by:

(a) Providing organizational and substantive support, including sound advice on procedures and practices, to the Conference on Disarmament and to conferences and meetings of States parties to various multilateral disarmament and arms limitation agreements;

(b) Assisting Member States, at their request, in consensus-building by providing timely and comprehensive information, including policy and procedural options;

(c) Supporting the implementation of treaty obligations, as well as decisions, recommendations and programmes of action adopted by the conferences and meetings of States parties to various multilateral disarmament, non-proliferation and arms limitation agreements;

(d) Providing specialized training in the field of disarmament and arms limitation, including non-proliferation in all its aspects, to Member States, in particular developing countries, including through the United Nations Disarmament Fellowship, Training and Advisory Services Programme, and promoting gender-balanced participation in the Programme;

(e) Monitoring and assessing trends in disarmament and arms limitation and non-proliferation in all its aspects to provide Member States and other participants in United Nations disarmament-related conferences and meetings with timely, accurate and factual information;

(f) Assisting Member States, at their request, in capacity-building by providing substantive support to various disarmament-related activities on an equal and non-discriminatory basis.

Subprogramme 2
Weapons of mass destruction

Objective of the Organization: To promote and support the efforts for disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery and to assist Member States, at their request, in supporting existing treaties and mandates related to weapons of mass destruction

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Effective and enhanced facilitation of the process of negotiations, deliberations and consensus-building on disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects, delivery systems and outer space, and issues of universality of international instruments dealing with weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, by Member States and States parties, at their request	(a) (i) Degree of satisfaction with the quality and timeliness of organizational and substantive services provided, as expressed by Member States (ii) Increased number of requests for expertise to support negotiations, deliberations, consensus-building and implementation efforts
(b) Enhanced knowledge, understanding and multilateral cooperation within the existing mandates, as well as the ability to respond to challenges relating to weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, as well as biological and chemical weapons, including the acquisition and use of weapons of mass destruction by non-State actors	(b) (i) Increased number of requests to the Weapons of Mass Destruction Branch for assistance and substantive input and advice on issues related to the work of the Branch (ii) Number of visits to and page views of the Branch's website (iii) Number of requests from Member States and international and regional organizations to provide support at events and seminars aimed at enhancing capacity and assistance in their implementation of obligations relating to disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery

Strategy

3.9 The subprogramme is implemented by the Weapons of Mass Destruction Branch. The objective of the subprogramme will be pursued by:

(a) Supporting Member States in their negotiations, deliberations and consensus-building in the area of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and on their means of delivery, as well as assisting Member States, at their request, in their efforts to achieve the full implementation and universalization of multilateral agreements, including global efforts against terrorism;

(b) Enhancing cooperation in accordance with existing arrangements with other relevant intergovernmental organizations, as well as expanding interaction with civil society, in particular research and academic institutions and non-governmental organizations working in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems;

(c) Monitoring and assessing current and future trends in the area of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons, with a view to achieving enhanced capacity to provide timely and accurate information and analysis;

(d) Assisting Member States, at their request, in building consensus by providing timely and comprehensive information, including policy and procedural options.

Subprogramme 3
Conventional arms (including practical disarmament measures)

Objective of the Organization: To promote greater mutual confidence among Member States in the field of conventional arms and facilitate their efforts in deliberations on the regulation and limitation of conventional weapons, taking into account the legitimate needs of States for self-defence

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Effective facilitation of implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty by States parties	(a) Degree of satisfaction with the quality and timeliness of organizational and substantive services provided, as expressed by Member States
(b) Effective facilitation of implementation by Member States of the 2001 Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects using available tools, within the agreed mandate	(b) Degree of satisfaction with the quality and timeliness of organizational and substantive services provided, as expressed by Member States
(c) Effective facilitation of the participation by Member States in the United Nations instruments on confidence-building measures in military and security matters	(c) Degree of satisfaction with the quality and timeliness of organizational and substantive services provided, as expressed by Member States

Strategy

3.10 The subprogramme is implemented by the Conventional Arms Branch. The objective of the subprogramme will be pursued by:

(a) Promoting and supporting the effective implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty by States parties;

(b) Promoting and supporting Member States' efforts to prevent illicit trade in small arms and light weapons through the effective implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects and the International Instrument

to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons;

(c) Supporting efforts of the United Nations system to address the challenges posed by the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons through the inter-agency Coordinating Action on Small Arms mechanism and the dissemination of International Small Arms Control Standards;

(d) Strengthening cooperation with regard to the issue of ammunition for conventional arms;

(e) Promoting transparency in conventional arms issues among States through the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms and the United Nations Report on Military Expenditures.

Subprogramme 4
Information and outreach

Objective of the Organization: To increase the understanding and knowledge of Member States and the public on disarmament issues

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased utilization and improved access to information and education materials of the Office for Disarmament Affairs	(a) (i) Increased percentage of users indicating the usefulness of disarmament materials (ii) The number of visits to and page views of the website of the Office for Disarmament Affairs
(b) Timely access to factual and objective information by end users through print and electronic means regarding various aspects of disarmament	(b) Increased percentage of information materials made available within the prescribed deadlines

Strategy

3.11 The subprogramme is implemented by the Information and Outreach Branch. The objective of the subprogramme will be pursued by:

(a) Continuing to carry out information and outreach activities in cooperation with other relevant departments within the United Nations Secretariat, notably the Department of Public Information;

(b) Enhancing the work of the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters, including through periodic reviews of working methods and composition;

(c) Implementation, as relevant, of the recommendations of the 2002 United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education by or in cooperation with relevant United Nations offices, disarmament-related international organizations and regional organizations, as well as civil society organizations, especially non-governmental and academic organizations;

(d) Furthering collaboration with the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research;

(e) Enhancing the use of electronic media for the dissemination and exchange of information, in particular by developing specialized web pages for end users;

(f) Facilitating the participation of civil society, especially non-governmental organizations, in disarmament-related conferences and meetings in accordance with established rules of procedure, including access to meetings and documentation, the organization of oral presentations, the holding of special events and the mounting of exhibits.

Subprogramme 5
Regional disarmament

Objective of the Organization: To promote and enhance international efforts towards global disarmament and international peace and security through the support and promotion of regional disarmament efforts and initiatives using approaches freely arrived at among the States of the region and taking into account the legitimate requirements of States for self-defence and the specific characteristics of each region

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Effective facilitation of regional cooperation, coordination and collaboration among States and regional and subregional organizations in matters related to disarmament, non-proliferation in all its aspects and regional and international peace and security	(a) (i) Degree of satisfaction with the quality and timeliness of the organizational and substantive services provided (ii) The number of activities (regional consultations, regional symposiums, capacity-building workshops and/or training activities, publications, advocacy and outreach activities related to the universalization of treaties and the full implementation of resolutions) undertaken at the national, subregional and regional levels
(b) Greater cooperation, within each region and subregion, between the Office for Disarmament Affairs and States and international, regional and subregional organizations in the areas of disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects, as well as regional and international peace and security	(b) (i) Degree of satisfaction with the quality of advisory, organizational and substantive services provided by the Regional Disarmament Branch at the regional, subregional and national levels (ii) Increased number of requests for assistance from Member States and regional and subregional organizations
(c) Enhanced capacity of national, subregional and regional entities to implement measures related to disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects as well as regional and international peace and security measures	(c) The number of actions taken by the Regional Disarmament Branch to assist national, subregional and regional entities in implementing measures related to disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects

Strategy

3.12 The subprogramme is implemented by the Regional Disarmament Branch, comprising the Regional Activities Unit, the Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, the Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and the Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean. The objective of the subprogramme will be pursued by:

(a) Undertaking advocacy and promoting regional cooperation among States and regional and subregional organizations in matters related to disarmament, non-proliferation in all its aspects and regional and international peace and security;

(b) Providing advice, information and assistance to Member States, at their request, as well as to regional organizations and arrangements and non-governmental organizations;

(c) Supporting national, regional and subregional implementation of existing multilateral instruments and resolutions on disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects;

(d) Supporting the capacity-building of national, subregional and regional entities in the implementation of disarmament, non-proliferation in all its aspects and regional and international peace and security measures.

Legislative mandates

General Assembly resolutions

S-10/2	Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly
38/183 O	Advisory Board on Disarmament Studies
42/37 C	Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol and to support the conclusion of a chemical weapons convention
42/38 C	Notification of nuclear tests
44/116 O	Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof
47/54 G	Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session
58/50	Reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons
59/81	The Conference on Disarmament decision (CD/1547) of 11 August 1998 to establish, under item 1 of its agenda entitled "Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament", an ad hoc committee to negotiate, on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator (CD/1299) and the mandate contained therein, a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices

59/95	Improving the effectiveness of the methods of work of the First Committee
60/55	Compliance with non-proliferation, arms limitation and disarmament agreements
60/68	Addressing the negative humanitarian and development impact of the illicit manufacture, transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons and their excessive accumulation
60/73	Preventing the risk of radiological terrorism
61/67	Declaration of a fourth disarmament decade
62/40	Prevention of the illicit transfer and unauthorized access to and use of man-portable air defence systems
62/272	The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy
63/55	Missiles
63/63	Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia
64/35	International Day against Nuclear Tests
64/36	Convention on Cluster Munitions
64/47	Renewed determination towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons
64/52	Second Conference of the States Parties and Signatories of Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia
65/61	Bilateral reductions of strategic nuclear arms and the new framework for strategic relations
65/66	Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament
65/127	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization
65/236	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
66/21	Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament
66/33	2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and its Preparatory Committee
66/49	Compliance with non-proliferation, arms limitation and disarmament agreements and commitments
67/31	Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia
67/35	Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol
67/36	Effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium
67/42	The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation

67/43	Preventing and combating illicit brokering activities
67/46	Decreasing the operational readiness of nuclear weapons systems
67/47	United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education
67/49	Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms
67/50	Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures
67/51	Preventing the acquisition by terrorists of radioactive sources
67/52	Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status
67/53	Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices
67/55	Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas
67/67	United Nations Disarmament Information Programme
67/68	United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services
68/23	Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures
68/24	Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace
68/25	African Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zone Treaty
68/26	Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)
68/27	Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East
68/28	Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons
68/29	Prevention of an arms race in outer space
68/30	Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction
68/31	The Arms Trade Treaty
68/32	Follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament
68/33	Women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control
68/34	Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them
68/35	Follow-up to nuclear disarmament obligations agreed to at the 1995, 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
68/36	Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control
68/37	Relationship between disarmament and development
68/38	Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation

68/39	Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments
68/40	Reducing nuclear danger
68/41	Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction
68/42	Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons
68/43	Transparency in armaments
68/44	National legislation on transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology
68/45	Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction
68/46	Taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations
68/47	Nuclear disarmament
68/48	The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects
68/49	Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone (Bangkok Treaty)
68/50	Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities
68/51	United action towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons
68/52	Problems arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus
68/53	Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes
68/54	Regional disarmament
68/55	Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context
68/56	Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels
68/57	United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament
68/58	Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons
68/59	United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific
68/60	United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean
68/61	United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa
68/63	Report of the Disarmament Commission
68/64	Report of the Conference on Disarmament
68/65	The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East
68/66	Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects
68/67	Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

68/68	Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty
68/69	Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction
68/243	Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

General Assembly decisions

54/418	Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters
60/519	International instrument to enable States to identify and trace, in a timely and reliable manner, illicit small arms and light weapons
63/520	United Nations conference to identify appropriate ways of eliminating nuclear dangers in the context of nuclear disarmament
65/515	Maintenance of international security — good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe
66/513	Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification
66/514	Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security
66/515	Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament
66/516	Missiles
66/518	The arms trade treaty
66/519	Proposed programme of work and timetable of the First Committee for 2012
67/516	Missiles
68/515	Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security
68/516	Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament
68/517	Missiles
68/518	Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices
68/519	Revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations

Security Council resolutions

1325 (2000)	Women and peace and security
1540 (2004)	Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction
1673 (2006)	Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction
1810 (2008)	Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction

1887 (2009)	High-level summit on nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation
1977 (2011)	Extended mandate for the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)
2055 (2012)	Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction
2117 (2013)	Small arms and light weapons